

REMARKS

The Office has objected to claim 2 because of an incorrect claim dependency. Claims 1-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cannon (6,029,176). Claims 12-15, 26, and 28-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cannon (6,029,176) in view of Uematsu (6,606,658).

Drawing Amendment

Applicant is submitting corrections to figures 1 and 2 of the drawings. Reference numbers 14, 14A, and 14B have been added to figure 1 and reference number 100 has been added to figure 2. These reference numbers were omitted in the formal drawings. Applicant ask the Office to approve these corrections and enter the corrected drawings.

Claim 2 Objection

Applicant has amended claim 2 to correct the claim dependency as required by the Office.

103(a) Rejection (Cannon)

The Office has cited a reference which teaches a use and meaning of the word "demographic" that is completely different from the manor in which Applicant defines and uses the term. Cannon uses the traditional definition which refers to the characteristics of a human population. Cannon defines demographic characteristics as "geographic territory, household income, education, age, and gender of the members living in the household." (See col. 4, lines 62-66.) This definition in no way relates to how Applicant defines or uses the term. Applicant's definition of demographic characteristics includes "current and peak disk space utilization of a database table or sub-table ...; spool space utilization; row count and average row size distribution of a database table or sub-table; statistics information of a column of a table; and blocks distribution of a table or sub-table." Applicant further notes that demographic information can also include "other information pertaining to how data of a table or tables

is stored in a database system." This definition has nothing to do with the characteristics of a human population. Cannon's demographics relate exclusively to human population characteristics and to data received from external sources. Cannon offers as an example TV audience data received from the A. C. Nielsen Company. Applicant's use of the term "demographics" relates to "how data of a table or tables is stored in a database system" and not to the actual data being store and definitely not to the viewing habits of a TV audience. The two definitions are totally disjoint and have nothing in common. The purpose and function of the data are also totally different. A person of ordinary skill would not construe the "demographics" of Cannon to have any relationship with the "demographics" of Applicant. Therefore, Cannon does not show or suggest all the features of Applicant's claims and these claims are allowable.

102(b) Rejection

The Office has rejected claims 12-15, 26, and 28-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cannon (6,029,176) in view of Uematsu (6,606,658). This rejection is improper because 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) requires a single reference that shows every element of the rejected claims. Applicant presumes the Office meant to reject under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and to advance the case will argue to that rejection.

The above argument to Cannon is applicable here. In particular, Cannon deals only with human demographics and is oblivious to the "demographics" of a database system. As to Uematsu, this reference relates to a method for displaying server resources. Uematsu does not relate to databases or the demographics of tables, as defined by applicant. The terms database or demographics are never used by Uematsu.

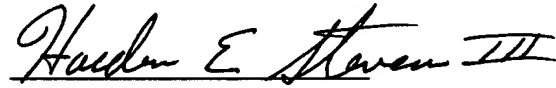
Furthermore, the Office states that "Uematsu discloses a row count and an average row size of rows" Applicant is at a loss to understand how Uematsu discloses these features. The terms "row," "row count," "average," and "average row size" simply do not appear anywhere in Uematsu. Neither Cannon nor Uematsu together or separately show or suggest all of the features of applicant's inventions.

CONCLUSION

None of the references cited, whether taken alone or in combination, shows or suggests the features of Applicant's claims. All of the claims are therefore allowable over these references.

Applicant asks the Examiner to reconsider this application and to allow all of the claims. Please apply any charges that might be due, excepting the issue fee but including fees for extensions of time, to deposit account 50-1673.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harden E. Stevens, III". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and registration number.

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